

To: Nattis, Randy[Nattis.Randy@epa.gov]
Cc: Wise, Robert[Wise.Robert@epa.gov]; Guria, Peter[Guria.Peter@epa.gov]; Lawrence, Kathryn[Lawrence.Kathryn@epa.gov]; Allen, HarryL[Allen.HarryL@epa.gov]; Robberson, Bill[Robberson.Bill@epa.gov]
From: Richman, Lance
Sent: Wed 8/12/2015 7:09:12 PM
Subject: RRT9 Incident Specific Calls, FW: USGS sit info and contact info. Please follow up. Also, when they are ready to share data, coordinate with Ian Bruce from START
[RRT9 8-11-2015 Incident Specific Call Bullets.docx](#)
[RRT9 Incident Specific call list.docx](#)

Randy: Just as a heads up, at the request of the Area Commander and RRT9 Co-Chair we are holding Regional Response Team 9, Incident Specific Gold King Mine calls each night at 5pm here in San Francisco. The agenda is short (roll call, sit brief, stakeholders brief out, path forward). The SUL here in the REOC briefs out from the Sit Report.

Additionally, today at 1:30PT RRT8 is holding a call.

Your decision, but I recommend at this time against you being on the calls. I will if you wish send you the bullets from our discussions (see attachments). Attached is a listing of folks that are invited to the calls and my cryptic notes from yesterday.

I did touch base with Dr. Matherne [per your request below] and will help coordinate the movement of information and data.

Regards

Lance

Lance Richman

LNO – EPA REOC AREA COMMAND

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From: Nattis, Randy
Sent: Wednesday, August 12, 2015 9:28 AM
To: Richman, Lance; Robberson, Bill; Lawrence, Kathryn
Subject: USGS sit info and contact info. Please follow up. Also, when they are ready to share data, coordinate with Ian Bruce from START

From: Matherne, Anne Marie [<mailto:matherne@usgs.gov>]
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 3:12 PM
To: Skibitski, Thomas, NMENV; Yurdin, Bruce, NMENV; Hogan, James, NMENV; Byran.Dail@state.nm.us; Flanigan, Kevin G., OSE; Johnson, Mike S., OSE; david.nez@nndoh.org; nnepawq@frontiernet.net
Cc: Matt Ely; Laura Bexfield; David Mau
Subject: Gold King mine - update of USGS efforts in NM

Hello -

We've had a number of inquiries concerning USGS sampling in New Mexico in conjunction with the Gold King mine spill, and we wanted to give you an update of our efforts.

A team of five from the New Mexico Water Science Center arrived at Farmington late on Friday, August 7. The goal was to collect water quality samples in the Animas and San Juan Rivers before and during passage of the spill plume. The team was on-site from Friday night until Sunday afternoon. Sample collection sites coincided with the location of USGS streamgages: Animas River at Farmington (09364500), before and during the plume; San Juan River at Farmington (09365000), during the plume; San Juan River at Shiprock (0936800), before and during the plume; San Juan River at Four Corners (09371010), both samples before the plume. The samples collected on the Animas and the San Juan at Farmington were composite samples; the samples at Shiprock and Four Corners were grab samples. A total of seven samples were collected between Friday night and Sunday afternoon. Samples were filtered and will be tested for major ions, trace metals, and mercury at the USGS National Water Quality Lab. Field parameters (pH, specific conductivity, dissolved oxygen, and water temperature) were collected at the time of sampling. A continuous water-quality sonde was deployed on the

Animas River at Farmington on Saturday morning and has continued to record field parameters (pH, SC, DO, and temperature) since that time.

Current efforts, as of Tuesday, August 11, will focus on the Animas at Farmington and San Juan at Farmington sites. A set of two ISCO samplers will be deployed at each site, one to sample daily, and a second, triggered by changes in turbidity, as an event sampler. A discharge measurement will be taken at each location, so that loads can be calculated from the suspended sediment samples.

On August 12, a second, five-parameter (pH, SC, DO, temperature, and turbidity) sonde will be deployed at San Juan at Farmington. Data from the Animas at Farmington sonde, which has been recording since Saturday morning, will be downloaded, and the sonde replaced with a five-parameter unit. A composite water-quality sample will be collected at each site, and bed sediment samples will be collected. An additional set of water quality and sediment samples may be collected at Aztec in conjunction with National Park Service monitoring there.

The USGS is currently in conversation with various agencies regarding additional monitoring needs, and may adapt our efforts in response to those conversations.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Thank you, Anne-Marie

Anne-Marie Matherne, PhD
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